

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Naoya Kurimoto

Atty. Docket: 000674.00063

Examiner: H. Vu

Group Art Unit: 2833

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: November 26, 2003

Continuation of Serial No. 09/455,804

Filed: December 7, 1999

For: CONNECTOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

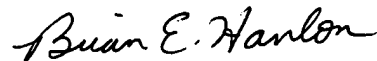
Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) Applicants submit herewith the references cited on the attached PTO form 1449.

Copies of these references are not submitted herewith, but can be found in parent application file U.S. Serial No. 09/455,804.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these references in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.104.

It is believed that no fee is required to ensure consideration of the cited references by the Examiner. However, if a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian E. Hanlon

Reg. No. 40,449

Date: November 26, 2003

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.

Eleventh Floor

1001 G Street, N.W.

Washington, D. C. 20001-4597

(202)508-9100

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	To Be Assigned
				Filing Date	November 26, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Naoya Kurimoto
				Group Art Unit	2833
				Examiner Name	H. Vu
				Attorney Docket Number	000674.00063
Sheet	1	of	1		

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.